

# Section 1

## Introduction to Volume 2

### **Introduction**

This is Volume 2 of the *Legacy Parkway Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Reevaluation and Section 4(f), 6(f) Evaluation* (Final Supplemental EIS). This volume contains the responses to comments received on the Draft Supplemental EIS. The 108-day public review period for the draft document began on December 3, 2004, and ended on March 21, 2005. Several comments were received after the close of the public review period; those comments are also addressed herein. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), as joint lead agencies for the Final Supplemental EIS, are required to respond to substantive environmental issues raised during the review and consultation process.

During the public review period, comments were received on the Draft Supplemental EIS from federal agencies; state agencies; regional and local agencies; special interest groups and other nongovernmental organizations; and individual members of the general public. Volume 2, this response to comments volume, contains copies of all the written, email, and telephone comments received on the Draft Supplemental EIS and all the verbal comments received at the public meeting (in the form of the written transcripts of the meeting).

More than 1,500 individual comments were received during the public comment period, of which approximately 1,100 were from the general public. Many of the comments only express an opinion in favor of or in opposition to the Proposed Action, and do not provide substantive comment on the analysis presented in the Draft Supplemental EIS. Although these comments are acknowledged and were assigned a comment number, they require no further response in this response to comments volume or change in the Supplemental EIS text.

### **Organization of Volume 2**

Volume 2 is organized into the following sections.

- Section 1, *Introduction*
- Section 2, *Master Responses*
- Section 3, *Federal Agency Comments and Responses*
- Section 4, *State Agency Comments and Responses*

- Section 5, *Regional and Local Agency Comments and Responses*
- Section 6, *Nongovernmental Organization Comments and Responses*
- Section 7, *General Public Comments and Responses* (includes public hearing transcripts)

Section 1, this introductory section, explains the purpose of this response to comments volume, describes the organization of the comments and responses in this document, and provides a table listing all of the comment letters received, by commenter affiliation and comment letter number.

Section 2 contains master responses to frequently expressed and/or general comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS.

Sections 3 through 7 contain specific responses to the comments and a copy of each comment letter. Each comment letter (*letter* in this case means any medium in which comments were submitted, e.g., comment card, email, hotline recorded message) and each comment within each letter has been numbered. The comment letters are organized into five categories, according to the affiliation of the commenter: federal agency (FA), state agency (SA), regional and local agency (LA), nongovernmental organization or special-interest group (NG), and general public or individual (GP). The number assigned to each letter (e.g., GP-1) is indicated in the top right margin. The individual comments within the letters are numbered consecutively in the margin (e.g., GP-1-1, GP-1-2, GP-1-3). The verbal comments transcribed in the written transcript of the public hearing and other oral testimony received at the public meeting are numbered consecutively in the right margin (e.g., PT-1, OT-1).

Sections 3 through 7 provide responses to substantive comments and address any significant environmental issues raised in the comments, as required by NEPA. Responses to comments generally provide clarification, explanation, or elaboration. For comments that are not directed to substantive environmental issues related to the proposed action and/or the analysis presented in the Draft Supplemental EIS, the comment is hereby acknowledged, but no response is warranted. In some cases, the responses indicate that changes, modifications, or corrections have been made to the text of the Draft Supplemental EIS. The response directs the reader to text changes indicated in Volume 1 of the Final Supplemental EIS. Any such changes that are substantive are indicated in Volume 1 by a vertical bar in the left or right margin of the page.

A list of acronyms and abbreviations immediately follows Section 7. The list defines the acronyms and abbreviations used in the Supplemental EIS and in this response to comments volume.

Except where specifically indicated, reference information for Volume 2 can be found in Chapter 8, *References*, of Volume 1 of the Final Supplemental EIS. In specific cases where a citation was new or material applied only to Volume 2, reference information is presented herein in parentheses after the information cited.

## **Summary List of Comment Letters**

Table 1 lists each letter received on the Draft Supplemental EIS, the comment letter number assigned to each letter, and where to find responses to the comments included therein. The letters are listed by commenter category, then alphabetically by agency or commenter name.